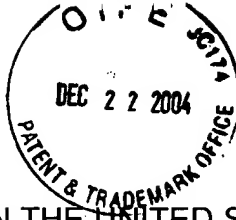


P18663.A21



IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kazutoshi YASUNAGA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2655

Appln. No. : 09/440,093

Examiner: Michael N. Opsasnick

Filed : November 15, 1999

Confirmation No.: 2522

For : EXCITATION VECTOR GENERATOR, SPEECH CODER AND SPEECH
DECODER

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

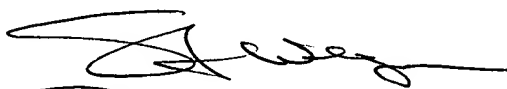
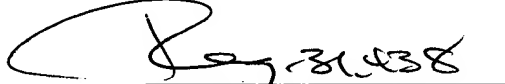
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Issue Fee
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington VA 22202

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability, mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on October 22, 2004 and to the Statement of Reasons for Allowance attached thereto, Applicants wish to clarify the record with respect to the basis for the patentability of claims in the present application. While Applicants do not disagree with the Examiner's indication that certain identified features are not disclosed by the references, Applicants submit that each of the claims in the present application recite a particular combination of features, and that the basis for patentability of each of these claims is based on the totality of the particular features recited therein.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Kazutoshi YASUNAGA et al.

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December 22, 2004
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